Capital investment in SEZs

†2026. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that capital investment of about Rs. 67,347 crores has been made so far in the units set up in the Special Economic Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and quantum of Indian and foreign capital investment separately;

(c) whether it is also a fact that about 61,015 employees are working in these units;

(d) if not, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether it is also a fact that on the basis of above facts, capital intensive technique is being adopted in these zones in place of labour intensive technique; and

(f) if not, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Out of the total investment of Rs. 67,347 crore made in the newly notified Special Economic Zones by Developers and units, foreign investment is of the order of about US$ 750 million. The SEZs notified under the SEZ Act are providing direct employment to 61015 persons. However, as per studies, indirect employment is estimated to be two to three times of the direct employment.

(e) and (f) The SEZ Act, 2005 came into force only in February 2006 and the SEZs which have been notified under this Act have come into existence only thereafter. Majority of these SEZs are in the process of setting up of manufacturing/services units and full employment potential of these SEZs would be known only once they are fully operational. Out of the 439 formal approvals given, 150 approvals are for sector specific and multi products SEZs for manufacture of Textiles & Apparels, Leather Footwear, Automobile components, Engineering, Gems and Jewellery and other labour intensive sectors. These SEZs, once fully developed, would involve labour intensive manufacturing, leading to creation of significant employment.

Shortfall in exports

2027. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exports in 2007-08 will fall short and only reach about US 145 billion dollars;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government had originally set a target of 160 US billion dollars for 2007-08;

(c) if so, which are the sectors where exports did not grow as anticipated;

(d) whether it is also a fact that traditional exports are falling; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.